(b) if so, the number of colleges selected for the purpose and the amount released, so far, to each of them; and

(c) the number of colleges selected from Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have recently introduced a pilot project for providing financial assistance to the selected Government Medical Colleges for strengthening of diagnostic facilities. Till date, no Government Medical College has been selected for release of assistance under this project.

Conversion of Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore as National Cancer Institute

40. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has requested to convert Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore as National Cancer Institute;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Institute is catering to the patients of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and other States; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Under the National Cancer Control Programme there is no scheme to declare any organisation as National Cancer Institute. The Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore has already been recognised as Regional Cancer Centre. It is the only Regional Cancer Centre in the State of Karnataka and is receiving financial assistance from Ministry @ Rs. 75.00 lakhs every year. In addition to above, this Ministry had also released Rs. 1.00 crore for purchase of Brachy-Therapy machine to the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore during the year 1999-2000.

Proposals for Establishment of New Medical Colleges in Kerala

41. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of proposals for establishment of New Medical Colleges in the State of Kerala are pending with Government for clearance/ approval;

(b) if so, the names of trusts / societies / institutions whose proposals are pending along with details of reasons in each case, for with-holding the approvals; and

(c) by when these proposals would be processed and approved by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Out of 26 proposals received from State of Kerala during August, 2001, 21 proposals have already been returned as incomplete. One proposal from Imam Razi Muslim Educational Trust, Palakkad, though incomplete, has been withheld from return to applicant on the direction of High Court of Kerala. Remaining 4 proposals from the following applicants have been sent to the Medical Council of India for evaluation:—

(1) Pushpagiri Medical Society, Tiruvalla

(2) Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church Medical Mission, Kolenmcherry

(3) Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Kochi

(4) CSI South Kerala Medical Mission, Thiruvananthapuram

The formal permission to start the medical colleges by these applicants will depend upon fulfiling the qualifying criteria of Medical Council of India Regulations, 1999, availability of Infrastructure and recommendations of Medical Council of India thereon.

Revised Scheme for Extra Mural Research in ISM&H

42. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched a revised scheme for Extra Mural Research in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and Homoeopathy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for focus of the scheme on life style related diseases like diabetes, hypertension, obesity, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The Government have launched a revised Scheme for Extra Mural Research in ISM & H. Under the revised scheme, the focus is on